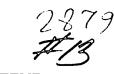
fioner's Docket No.: 939 033





PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

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09/991,253

Art Unit:

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1,10 addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 28, 2003 under "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EV 98911 7356 US.

Janet M. Stevens

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Sir:

[X] Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was *first* cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

OR

No item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the fall of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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